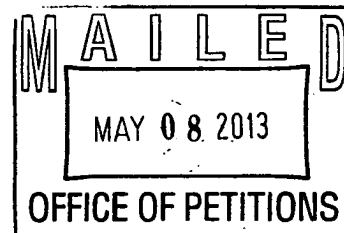




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In re Patent No. 6,631,363 :
Brown et al. :
Issue Date: October 7, 2003 :
Application No. 09/686,446 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: October 10, 2000 :
Atty Docket No. 020431.0974 :

This is a decision on the PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b) filed April 22, 2013. This decision also responds to the PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(c)) filed April 30, 2013.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) is **DISMISSED without consideration on the merits.**

The filing of a petition to revive in an expired patent is inappropriate. The appropriate avenue to reinstate an expired patent is by way of petition under 37 CFR 1.378 (or 1.377). As consideration of the petition under 1.137(b) will not be undertaken, the \$1900 fee for such consideration is being refunded to the credit card charged.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c) is **GRANTED.**

The patent issued October 7, 2003. The first maintenance fee was timely paid. The grace period for paying the 7-½ year maintenance fee provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e) expired at midnight on October 7, 2011, with no payment received.

This petition was timely filed within twenty-four months after the expiration of the six-month grace period. As required, petitioner submitted with the petition the required maintenance fee, the surcharge for accepting an unintentionally delayed maintenance fee after expiration, and a statement that the delay in payment of the maintenance fee was unintentional.

Accordingly, the maintenance fee in this case is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is hereby reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries related to this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3219.

/Nancy Johnson/

Nancy Johnson
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions